

He Listened. [sic] He took notes. He asked questions. He got the message: "Its [sic] politics and the Democrats are against it and the people for it are Republicans."

Within the DNC, it was apparent that Fowler and Mercer were being attentive to the opponent tribal group. Richard Sullivan observed that Mercer was preoccupied with the Indian group on April 28, and Mercer later reported to Sullivan that Fowler was "taking care of the Indians,"²⁴⁸ and was "going out of his way for the Indian tribes."²⁴⁹ Sullivan also observed Fowler making proactive efforts to cultivate the Indians as contributors, which Sullivan understood entailed Fowler's communicating with the Interior Department and Ickes on their behalf. Sullivan understood that O'Connor and Kitto were soliciting their clients as DNC donors. He also recalls Mercer eventually reporting to him that the Indians were pleased with the assistance Fowler provided them, and that Mercer anticipated the Indians would be making contributions to the DNC, possibly that coming fall.²⁵⁰ Sullivan understood that Mercer was following-up with O'Connor, Kitto and their clients to that end.

O'Connor and Kitto acknowledge that they were engaged in a running dialogue with Mercer in the spring of 1995 about efforts to raise money from the Indian community for the DNC's Washington Gala. The Gala, scheduled for June 28, 1995, was the DNC's largest annual

²⁴⁸Grand Jury Testimony of Richard Sullivan, June 2, 1999, at 41-42 (hereinafter "Sullivan G.J. Test., June 2, 1999").

²⁴⁹Grand Jury Testimony of Richard Sullivan, Nov. 13, 1998, at 49-50.

²⁵⁰As noted below, some of the Hudson opponent tribes first began making substantial DNC contributions in the fall of 1995. Sullivan recalls no indication that there was a direct correlation between any specific action or outcome on the Hudson casino application and the Indians' inclination to financially support the DNC, but he understood that "their appreciation for [Fowler's] responsiveness created a conducive environment for them to be politically supportive." Sullivan G.J. Test., June 2, 1999, at 46.